



THE STATE
of **ALASKA**
GOVERNOR MICHAEL J. DUNLEAVY

Department of Environmental Conservation

DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH
Environmental Health Laboratory

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December 2, 2019

RE: Environmental Health Laboratory schedule week of Dec. 30, 2019 – Jan. 3, 2020

To our valued clients:

Alaska state offices will be **closed** on Wednesday, January 1st in observance of New Year's Day.

As a result, the sample acceptance schedule for **Dec. 30- Jan. 3** must be modified, as follows:

- Shellfish Growing Water (SGW) samples will be accepted by noon on Monday Dec. 30 and by noon on Thursday Jan. 2.
- Paralytic Shellfish Toxin (PST) commercial samples will be accepted Monday Dec. 30, by noon on Tuesday Dec. 30, Thursday Jan. 2, and by noon on Friday Jan. 3.
- Wet Storage samples **cannot** be accepted this week.
- Raw meat samples will be accepted by noon on Monday Dec. 30 and by noon on Thursday Jan. 2, however meat samples are pooled for efficiency, generally once a week.
- Slaughter sponge samples are good for 24 hours per USDA. Sponges will be accepted by noon on Monday Dec. 30 and by noon on Thursday Jan. 2, unless written extension provided to hold longer than 24 hours for testing.
- Manufactured and Cottage food samples will be accepted Monday Dec. 30 – Tuesday Dec. 31 and Thursday Jan. 2 - Friday Jan. 3, however the testing will be conducted when samples are pooled for efficiency.
- Dairy testing is scheduled once a month, as usual, and is already scheduled for the week of Dec. 2nd, followed by Jan. 20th.
- Paralytic Shellfish Toxin (PST) recreational/research testing is scheduled once a month, and is scheduled for the week of Dec. 9th, followed by Jan. 6th and 21st.

Normal sample acceptance schedules resume on Monday, January 6, 2020.

Assistance is available with timing of sample collections, completion of submission forms, packaging, temperature requirements, shipping, and sample tracking. Sampling questions, planned sampling activities, and shipping notifications, can be made to DEC.EH-Lab-ShippingReceiving@alaska.gov or 907-375-8231.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Patryce D. McKinney".

Patryce D. McKinney, MBA
Chief, Environmental Health Laboratory